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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ADP-00 EB-05 RSR-01 RSC-01 EUR-06 /026 W
---------- 078504
R 130922Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0628
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS DACCA 3636

E O 11652 N/A
TAGS BGEN, ENRG, BG
SUBJECT: OIL EXPLORATION: MESSAGE FOR EASTER PETROLEUM

REF : LONDON A-1 TO DACCA (NOTAL)

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO PHILIP H. PARIS, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR, EASTERN PETROLEUM CO. (HOUSTON), 48 BURFIELD ROAD, OLD WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE.

2. QUOTE: YOUR CABLE TO FRERES RECEIVED JULY 21 AND MATERIAL SENT THROUGH DIPLOMATIC POUCH WITH YOUR LETTER JULY 20 RECEIVED AUGUST 10. LETTER TO SECRETARY, MINISTRY NATURAL RESOURCES, PLUS SIX COPIES OF REVISED PROPOSAL WITH ACCOMPANYING MAP HANDED OVER AUGUST 11 TO NEW INCUMBENT, KERAMET ALI. (ALI ALSO MEMBER-SECRETARY NEW MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO MAKE FINAL REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS EXPLORATION PROPOSALS. MINISTERS OF NATURAL RESOURCES, FINANCE AND INDUSTRIES ARE OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP.)

2. REGRET DELAY IN POUCH SERVICE HERE BUT BELIEVE YOUR PROPOSAL SUBMITTED AUGUST 11 WILL STILL RECEIVE FULLEST CONSIDERATION.

3. WE NOTE THAT EASTERN PART OF ONE OF AREAS OF INTEREST TO EASTERN PETROLEUM IS DEFINED ON YOUR MAP AS CONTIGUOUS WITH BURMESE-BANGLADESH BORDER ONSHORE AND THEN FOR SHORT DISTANCE OFFSHORE.
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MAP PROCURED FROM RANGOON OF OFFSHORE AREAS NOW

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BEING ALLOCATED FOR EXPLORATION BY GOB INDICATES THAT BURMESE BLOCK A-1 TO EAST AND SOUTH YOUR AREA. BURMESE MAP OF SMALLER SCALE THAN YOURS AND NOT CLEAR FROM FORMER WHETHER THERE IS COMPLETE AGREEMENT BETWEEN IT AND YOURS ON DELINEATION OF BOUNDARY STRETCHING IN SOUTHERLY DIRECTION FROM MOUTH NAF RIVER. THIS POINTED OUT TO SECRETARY (ALSO OVERLAP SOMEWHAT TO SOUTH OF WESTERN PART YOUR AREA, BETWEEN REST OF BURMESE BLOCK A-1 AND REMAINING AREA IN THAT REGION ON NOW BANGLADESH GOVT. MAP OF TOTAL OFFSHORE AREA WHICH BDG TO ALLOCATE).

4. DO NOT BELIEVE A MAJOR PROBLEM EXISTS RELATING TO YOUR AREA. AHMED REZA, OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY (OIL EXPLORATION), HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT AREAS OF POSSIBLE OVERLAP BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND BURMA, ALSO INDIA, WILL BE TAKEN UP BY FOREIGN MINISTRIES CONCERNED. ALLOCATION DISPUTED AREAS WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL BOUNDARIES DEFINED. UNQUOTE.
NEWBERRY

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